

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition) Application No. C-3006
from residents of the Hay)
Springs exchange, served by)
Great Plains Communications,) DISMISSED
requesting extended area service)
(EAS) to the Rushville exchange,)
served by Great Plains)
Communications.) Entered: October 7, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 16, 2003, the Commission received a petition from the residents of the Hay Springs exchange, requesting extended area service (EAS) to the Rushville exchange. On August 26, 2003, the Commission verified that the petition contained a sufficient number of signatures. As required by Rule 002.27C3 of the Commission Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Title 291, Chapter 5, a point-to-point usage study was commenced to determine if a community of interest exists.

Rule 002.27C3 sets forth two criteria which must be satisfied, based on data from the most recent three-month period, for an EAS petition to proceed: 1) an average of five or more calls per customer per month must be made to the petitioned exchange, and 2) more than 50 percent of the customers must make two or more calls per month to the petitioned exchange.

The results of the usage study indicate that no such community of interest exists. During each of the months studied (July, August and September 2003), an average of four calls were made by each Hay Springs resident to Rushville. Therefore, the first criteria established by the Commission's rules was not satisfied.

In addition, the usage study indicates the second criteria was also not fulfilled. During the first month, only 40 percent of Hay Springs residents made two or more calls to Rushville. During months two and three, only 39 percent and 38 percent of Hay Springs residents made two or more calls to Rushville, respectively. Therefore, in none of the three months did 50 percent of Hay Springs residents make two or more calls to Rushville, as required by the rule.

Pursuant to Rule 002.27C3, failure to satisfy these two criteria requires dismissal of the petition.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-3006 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 7th day of October, 2003.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director